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Attorney Docket No. HMV-006.11

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

H211G

In re Application of:

Philip W. Ingham et al.

) Art Unit: 1646

Examiner:

M. Brannock

Serial No.: 08/954,771

Filing Date: October 20, 1997

For: Vertebrate Embryonic Pattern Inducing
Proteins and Uses Related Thereto

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this Response is being submitted by facsimile transmission to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents/Office of Examiner M. Brannock (703) 308-0294 on this date of July 31, 2000.

Lee Dunkle

Fourth Preliminary Amendment

Sir:

Prior to Examination of this application, please amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 94-95, and 161, and amend the following claims:

1. (Twice Amended) A method for [modulating] promoting one or more of growth, differentiation and survival of neuronal cells, comprising contacting said cells with an effective amount of a hedgehog polypeptide.

96. (Amended) The method f claim 1, wherein said polypeptide includes an [hedgehog] amino acid sequence encoded by a naturally occurring vertebrate hedgehog gene.